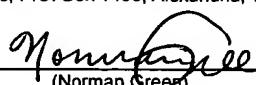




I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 761645295 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 14, 2005

Signature: 

(Norman Green)

Docket No.: 397272000500  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Boro DROPULIC

Application No.: 10/627,940

Confirmation No.: 3674

Filed: July 25, 2003

Art Unit: 1636

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR  
IDENTIFYING GENE FUNCTION

Examiner: Nancy S. Vogel, Ph.D.

### AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

### INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Responsive to the non-final office action on the merits, mailed July 15, 2005 (the OA), Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and consideration of the remarks set forth herein. A response was initially due October 15, 2005. Applicants herein submit a petition for a two month extension of time to December 15, 2005, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, with the appropriate fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

**Amendment to the Specification** begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

sd-293541

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02 FC:2202 125.00 DA  
03 FC:1806 100.00 DA

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.

The following documents are enclosed herewith:

- Transmittal letter; Fee Transmittal; Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time; return receipt postcard; and

Supplementary IDS.